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THE LOTUS MAGAZINE

Volume IV

JUNE, 1913

Number 9

SPORTS OF THE OLDEN TIME

Introduction

WHILE every issue of THE LOTUS, from beginning of the third volume, has had a pictorial frontispiece, illustrations were not introduced into the body of the magazine until the issue of February last. Since then illustrations have been a regular and striking feature of THE LOTUS; and the magazine's manner of handling them is so distinctive and so conducive to bringing out their beauty, that it has been spoken of as "the Lotus way."

To obtain illustrations, this magazine does not snapshot people coming down the gang-planks of steamers, nor resort to any of the other methods of securing material that, legitimately perhaps, belong to newspapers and those periodicals that seek to rival them. It has seemed to THE LOTUS that it was desirable that at least one periodical should get away as far as possible from the prevalent realism of the day, and exist for the sake of beauty and that alone, thus appealing to class as distinguished from mere numbers.

Accordingly, even the so-called "special" numbers of THE LOTUS have their highly individual and artistic quality. Not to go back too far, con-

sider the April, or out-of-door number, in which the open air "atmosphere" was created by reproductions from beautiful paintings and drawings from historic English gardens and country estates—features which have permanent, instead of mere ephemeral interest. The May, or yachting number, brought paintings of yachts; the unusual wood-carved panels in Aloha II; the quaint pictures of seventeenth century sea-ports; the charming views of a last century trip down the Seine.

The present issue is a sporting number; but, it should be remembered, a sporting number of THE LOTUS. The illustrations are most delightful prints of sports in the olden times. Several of these prints date back to the sixteenth century, others to the eighteenth and early nineteenth. The remarkable etchings by Bracquemond of teal duck alighting and of a fish swimming, are the work of one of the greatest French etchers. But all the prints, however quaint their charm, apply to sports ardently practised to this very day, though with differences in weapons and technique, that make the old pictures all the more interest-

ing. With the letter-press are introduced several old time sporting poems and songs, stanzas characteristic of a bygone day, yet not without their echo in this. There will be found mellow-ness and quaint charm in pictures and text, and withal again the suggestion of permanency, of which the things of today do not partake, save very few of them, and these not until they too have long survived the present and themselves are prized for age and tradition.

Besides accessions to the list of Patrons, the success of "the Lotus way" of doing things has been demonstrated by several incidents. The "New York Times" recently devoted an ar-

ticle in its Sunday magazine section to THE LOTUS, reproducing the article on Mr. Morgan and the symbols from Chinese porcelains, which were so significant a part of it. This is, perhaps, the first time a great Metropolitan daily has published a special article descriptive of a magazine.

Further evidence of appreciation came from a New England firm which has business connections in Japan. This firm has acquired seven Patronages from THE LOTUS, one for itself and one each for six Japanese firms, to whom it has ordered THE LOTUS sent as an example of this country's highest achievement in typography and illustration.

Gustav Kobbé

DIANA

(Invocation to the Goddess of the Hunt)

Queene and Huntress, chaste and faire,
Now the Sunne is laid to sleepe,
Seated, in thy silver chaire,
State in wonted manner keepe:
Hesperus intreats thy light,
Goddesse, excellently bright.

Earth, laid in thy envious shade,
Dare it selfe to interpose;
Cynthia's shining orbe was made
Heaven to cleare, when day did close:
Blesse us then with wish'd sight
Goddesse, excellently bright.

Lay thy bow of pearle apart,
And the cristall-shining quiver;
Give unto the flying hart
Space to breathe, how short soever:
Thou that mak'st a day of night,
Goddesse, excellently bright.

—BEN JONSON, 1616.